

## **FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPLORATORY COMMITTEES**

D.C. Act 16-100, the “Exploratory Committee Disclosure Informational Report and Contribution Prohibition Emergency Amendment Act of 2005”, became effective on June 21, 2005, and will remain in effect for no longer than ninety (90) days. This legislation will require all exploratory committees who receive contributions and make expenditures after March 1, 2005, to file informational reports semi-annually, on January 31<sup>st</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>, with the Office of Campaign Finance. The Act establishes both aggregate and individual contribution limits for exploratory committees, and provides that fund balances may be transferred to an established principal campaign committee, political committee, or charitable organization.

Of significance, when an individual becomes a candidate, contributions received during the exploratory period, beginning March 1, 2005, shall apply to the contribution limits set forth in D.C. Official Code, Section 1-1131.01 (2001 Edition).

Lastly, D.C. Act 16-100 amends the District of Columbia Campaign Finance Reform and Conflict of Interest Act to define the terms “exploratory activity” to mean, “but shall not be limited to, polling to determine one’s electability to public office, travel, and telephone bills”; and “exploratory committee” to mean “any individual or group of individuals organized for the purpose of examining or exploring the feasibility of becoming a candidate for an elective office in the District of Columbia”.

August 2, 2005